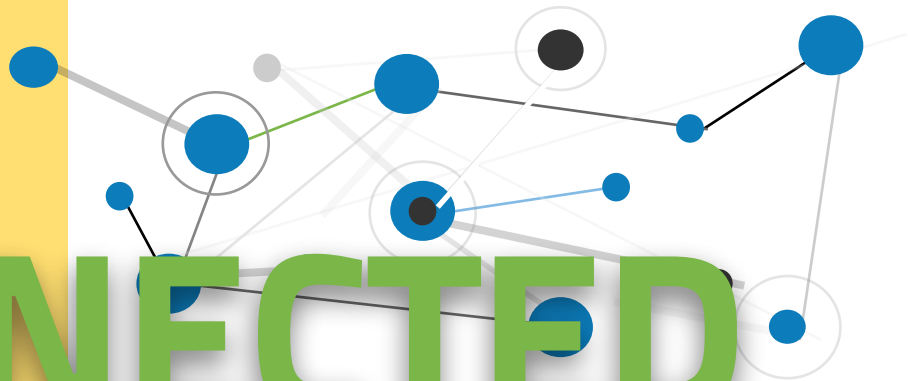


The GAMbit

GET CONNECTED



IN THIS ISSUE

Letter from the President

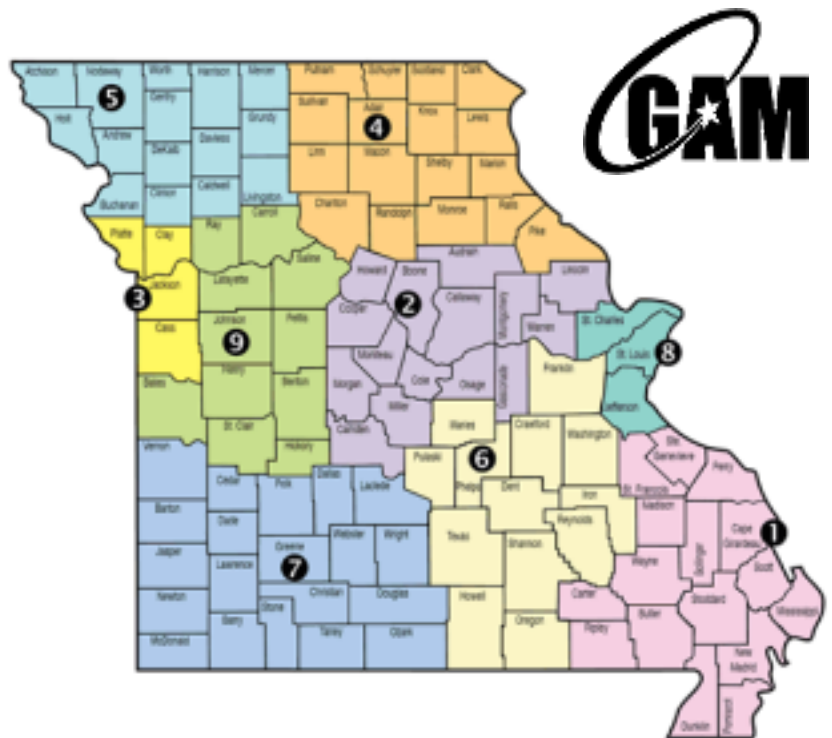
GAM Day at the Capitol Updates

New Teacher Workshop

Awards and Scholarships

GAM Conference Updates

Gifted Legislation



Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

Check out the latest information at
www.mogam.org.

Letter From the President

Peggy Pennington



My Network

I am so excited to get to serve this organization as President. Since I started teaching gifted students in the fall of 2005, I have been active with the Gifted Association of Missouri. If you have talked with me about the organization, then you have probably heard me talk affectionately that being a part of the board has been the best professional development that I could imagine. Being a part of the GAM has kept me up to date with the latest happenings with gifted in our state. I have been able to network with teachers in school districts of all sizes. It has given me a troop to go to with questions and concerns and from which to pull ideas to make my own program and classroom instruction stronger. I would encourage you to reach out to others in your region especially your Region Director. Sending an email to your Region Director may help your email server keep from identifying any group emails as spam.

Advancements

GAM has been involved with many important gifted decisions throughout the years. There is a full time director of Gifted at DESE because of GAM's work. GAM was also instrumental in the development of the Gifted Advisory Council which is a separate group of specialists in gifted education the state who can provide guidance to the State Board of Education and keep gifted concerns as part of the discussion. The Missouri Scholars Academy on the Mizzou campus and the Missouri Fine Arts Academy on the Missouri State University campus have also both received support from GAM in the challenge to maintain funding to help reduce/eliminate the cost to students so that students from all socioeconomic groups have the opportunity to attend. It is a powerful experience for the students that attend the academies each year.

Who can join?

If you are a teacher of gifted students, parent or grandparent of a gifted student, an administrator, a gifted individual, or anyone that has an interest in gifted education, we would love to have you as part of our organization. The more members we have the more impact our voice can have.

Upcoming Events

I would encourage you to watch for emails from GAM and to check out the GAM website (www.mogam.org) to find out more about what is happening around the state. The board has been hard at work setting up events for this year! Stay in touch with us.

Peggy Pennington

Upcoming Events

February 21	GAM Day at the Capitol
March 8	Region 8 Mini-Symposium--see flyer below
April 6	Region 3 & 5 Mini-Conference at Union Station, KC <i>contact Cassie Fogel for more information</i>
April 12	Region 7 Mini-Conference at Cottey College, Nevada <i>contact Megan Pinney for more information</i>
April 13	Board Meeting
May 1	Vicky Bennett Student Award nomination deadline
July 22-23	New Teacher Workshop at Drury
July 23	Board Meeting
September 1	Deadline for GAM Awards Nominations
September 14	Board Meeting
October 11-12	GAM Conference on Gifted Education

GAM Publication Updated and Available for Purchase

Understanding and Challenging the Gifted and Talented

The handbook *Understanding and Challenging the Gifted and Talented* has been updated, printed, and is now available for purchase. The booklet is a 27 page quick guide about gifted issues ranging from characteristics to program options to summer learning opportunities.

It is a great resource to share with parents, administrators, and anyone that is involved with gifted students. The books sell for \$2 each with shipping extra.

Contact Sue Peters to get yours today.
suepeters16@gmail.com

Understanding
and Challenging
the Gifted and
Talented

Presented by

GAM

Gifted Association of Missouri

GIFTED Education Online

Master's Degree (M Ed) in special education
with an emphasis in gifted education



Choose your option:

Master's Degree An online master's degree designed to enhance the process of teaching and learning in the elementary, middle or high school classroom.

Missouri Certification The necessary gifted course work to prepare for Missouri gifted education certification — available online.

Those interested in gifted course work for Missouri certification should enroll as nondegree-seeking students at

online.missouri.edu/admissions/new-nondegree.aspx

All courses listed meet requirements for Missouri Gifted Certification.

Teachers seeking Missouri Gifted Certification may enroll online as post-baccalaureate students without making an application to a degree program.

Courses may be taken in any order beginning in any semester.

For more information, contact:

Nancy Gerardy
Gifted Education Program Coordinator
Special Education Department
GerardyN@missouri.edu
573-268-7766

SPRING SEMESTER 2019

- Research with Exceptional Children (SPC_ED 8350)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- Differentiating Instruction: Reaching Gifted, Typical and Struggling Learners (SPC_ED 8406)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

SUMMER SEMESTER 2019

- Research with Exceptional Children (SPC_ED 8350)
- Nature and Needs of Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8390)
- Curriculum Methods for Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8391)
- Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs (SPC_ED 8410)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

FALL SEMESTER 2019

- Curriculum Methods for Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8391)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- Differentiating Instruction: Reaching Gifted, Typical and Struggling Learners (SPC_ED 8406)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

Visit: online.missouri.edu/GAMbitW18



**GIFTED EDUCATION DAY AT THE CAPITOL
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019**

9:30 Missouri State Capitol

Arrive and gather on the 4th floor

10:00 House & Senate Chambers

Introduction of students in Senate and House gallery
across from rooms 414 & 416

11:00 Rotunda

Gather and be seated

11:15 Introductions & Legislative Briefing

11:30 Awards & Presentations

**12:00 Visit Your State Representative & Senator
(ask them to have lunch with you!)**

Please call to make appointments prior to arriving

Legislators Directory: www.house.mo.gov, www.senate.mo.gov

Capitol Switchboard: 573-751-2000

**Questions? Contact Dr. Robin Lady, NBCT
GAM Advocacy Chair, email: robin.lady.gam@gmail.com**



SPONSORED BY THE GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION GO TO WWW.MOGAM.ORG

54 Ways to Celebrate Gifted Education Week

1. Offer to write an article on gifted education for the school board or district publication or for posting on the website. Students who have are gifted in writing could do so as well.
2. Have students complete one of these statements, "Gifted Education is...." Or "Giftedness is like...." Make the statements into posters.
3. Prepare a report of successes of the gifted education services in your school district. Ask to be placed on the March or April board of education agenda and/or school council agenda for presenting the report.
4. Prepare a scrapbook focusing on gifted education. Include newspaper clippings about the services provided to gifted students. Let administrators, teachers, and parents check out the scrapbook. Display it in the local public library.
5. Conduct a Gifted Education slogan contest. Choose a slogan that describes gifted education in your district during Gifted Education Week. Use the slogan to decorate bulletin boards, classroom doors, newsletters, posters, store windows, etc.
6. Conduct a contest for posters that represent some aspect of gifted education. Display posters around school and in local stores. Award prizes, if feasible.
7. Describe services for gifted children in a poem. Set the poem to music using an original score or favorite tune. Save the song on tape or videotape a group of students reciting the poem.
8. Write essays on such topics as "Why gifted education is important..." "Why I like being a part of our gifted program..." etc. Submit the essays to magazines for publication.
9. Collect questions students and teachers have about gifted students and services. Afterwards, answer the questions and publish your responses.
10. Prepare and distribute an agenda to parents, teachers and administrators for special events related to Gifted Education Week.
11. Prepare a brochure titled "What is gifted education?" or "This is gifted education in the ____ School District." Distribute to community leaders.
12. Submit articles and pictures about gifted education to the local newspaper and/or school paper for each day during Gifted Education Week. Articles might include explaining what Gifted Education Week is, your experience in the gifted program, activities for gifted students, etc.
13. Design a button, T-shirt, or flag about developing talents.
14. Each day of Gifted Education Week, display a quotation by a famous gifted person.
15. Create puppets, props and script to inform your audience about gifted education. Offer to PTA, Rotary, Lions Club, etc., as a program.
16. Contact your local library or other community facility to request permission to create a display case of projects.
17. Study famous gifted people. Select a favorite. Depict that person in a vignette. Share interesting anecdotes with others. Dress up in period costume to be that person for a day.
18. Wear your costume as you walk through town distributing brochures about services for gifted children, about special Gifted Education Week events, etc.

Thank you KAGE (Kentucky Association for Gifted Education) for creating this list.

54 Ways to Celebrate Gifted Education Week

19. Plan an open-class day for your gifted classroom. Prepare a slide show or other presentation to portray your program. Write invitations to attend the "showing" to businesses, school board members, school council members, local press, etc.
20. Kick off Gifted Education Week with a continental breakfast for school personnel who are supportive of appropriate services for gifted children.
21. Invite members of the board of education and school council to visit your classroom during Gifted Education Week to see developing talents in action.
22. Sponsor a school-wide activity such as Career Day, International Day, etc.
23. Prepare a "Question of the Day" for each day of Gifted Education Week. Display the questions so all students may participate by doing research and handing in their answers. If feasible, offer prizes.
24. Create brainteaser trivia games to distribute to other classes.
25. Have students write predictions about themselves and for their gifted classmates. Have them describe where they will be and what they will be doing in the year 2027. They should also respond to the questions: How did our gifted classes prepare you for the future? What more could have been done?
26. Conduct a "hats off " contest. Invent hats that represent outstanding gifted individuals by showing their characteristics, accomplishments, interests, etc.
27. Prepare a debate or panel discussion about a controversial aspect of gifted education.
28. Draw the ideal gifted classroom. Pretend you are not limited by space or money.
29. Design thought-provoking notebook stickers (instead of bumper stickers). Attach them with clear contact paper.
30. Write similes and metaphors about gifted education.
31. Write help wanted ads for creative thinkers, problem solvers, and mentors. Write job descriptions for parents of the gifted, teachers of the gifted, etc.
32. Purchase newspapers. Have a local paper and a major paper. Highlight all articles that deal with education, giftedness, and gifted people.
33. Have students write and pre-record 30-second public service announcements for broadcast on local radio stations.
34. Set up an interview on a local radio or TV station to discuss gifted issues, to describe the local services for gifted students, to explain how schools identify and encourage gifted students, and/or to describe local and state efforts in gifted.
35. Ask local banks / businesses to advertise Gifted Education Week on their marquee or computerized signs.
36. Present the superintendent, president of the board of education, and/or building principal(s) with framed certificates of appreciation to hang in their offices or in the central office.
37. Prepare a packet of creative ideas for use in the regular classroom.
38. Write letters to the editor thanking school board members and/or school council members for their support of gifted education.

54 Ways to Celebrate Gifted Education Week

39. Contact the advertising sales department of the local newspaper in advance about reserving a whole page for a special Gifted Education Week ad. Approach local merchants about purchasing a portion of the page for their own message saluting gifted education.
40. Contact the Mayor to get a proclamation signed about Gifted Education Week. Call the Mayor's office to find out the necessary procedure. Make a ceremony out of the signing and have photographs taken. County judges will also sign proclamations. Make a publicity event of the signing. Call the local media to cover or take your own photographs. Make photographs available to local newspapers along with an article on gifted education.
41. Inform your local newspaper, radio and TV about Gifted Education Week. Ask them to feature what's happening in your district to meet the needs of gifted students.
42. Arrange an appointment with an administrator, school board member, or school council member to share outstanding aspects of gifted education.
43. Plan a workshop about a relevant aspect of gifted education for teachers, administrators, school board members, and school council members.
44. Create a newsletter for parents and community groups describing gifted education in your district. Have information about GAM and an agenda for Gifted Education Week.
45. Invite a panel of gifted graduates to discuss pros and cons of their program experiences.
46. Hold an "open house" for parents, administrators, teachers, school board members, school council members, and community leaders. This would be a great forum for students' speeches, skits, demonstrations, etc. Information about GAM, summer learning opportunities, etc. could be available. A carry-in supper or snack would complement the evening.
47. Arrange to speak to parent groups (PTA, PTO) and other community groups such as the Lion's Club or other service clubs about the purpose of gifted education. Include a slide presentation or videotaped presentation, if appropriate.
48. Teach a six to ten week class on a topic or book you enjoy (e.g., *Guiding the Gifted Child* by James Webb). Begin or end the class during Gifted Education Week.
49. Write a letter to someone who inspired you to teach gifted students. Say, "Thanks!"
50. Write your legislators. Urge them to continue supporting Missouri gifted education.
51. Prepare crates or folders of materials on various topics of interest to parents of the gifted (e.g., sibling relationships, underachievement, and summer opportunities). Be sure the materials are all checked out during Gifted Education Week.
52. Check the public library for current books on "gifted" or "gifted education." Talk with the librarian about purchasing books on the topics (be prepared with a list of suggested books). Make a request to a parent group to purchase a book(s) on "gifted" or "gifted education" for the public library. Make a public presentation of the book(s) to the librarian.
53. Call the local media to cover your special activities or take your own photographs and do a write up. Make available to local newspapers along with an article on gifted education.
54. Divide a classroom into groups. Challenge each group to plan a bulletin board for gifted education week. Emphasize that this is a planning session only. Let it evolve naturally. Allow the students 15 minutes to plan and prepare an oral presentation of their ideas to the class. At the end of 15 minutes, have the groups share ideas. Let the class select one for implementation.

GAM Day at the Capitol Student Contest

Contest Description: The GAM 2019 Student Contest, Legislative Letter Contest, is a challenge to gifted students grades 3-8 in Missouri to write a letter of support for one of the GAM sponsored pieces of legislation in the 2019 session. These are:

HB 112 -- PROVISIONS FOR GIFTED EDUCATION

Sponsored by Representative Chrissy Sommer

This bill requires school districts to establish a state-approved gifted program if 3% or more of the students are determined to be gifted. Districts with average daily attendance of 350 or fewer students are not required to have a teacher certificated to teach gifted education, but any teacher providing gifted instruction without a gifted-teaching certificate must participate in six hours per year of professional development regarding gifted services.

HB 136 -- GIFTED CHILDREN

Sponsored by Representative Chris Carter

This bill requires school districts to establish special programs for gifted children when a sufficient number of children are determined to be gifted and their development requires programs or services beyond the level of those ordinarily provided in regular public school programs.

YOU CAN FIND INFORMATION ON THE BILLS HERE:

<https://www.house.mo.gov/LegislationSP.aspx?focusedID=Bill%20List>

Find the complete rules
and guidelines online
under the EVENTS tab
on the www.mogam.org
website.

This letter should be in support of GAM legislation and follow the following criteria:

1. The letter is to be written to the student's legislator in the district in which they live.
2. The letter should be informative and provide a good understanding of the bill the student is in support of, what the bill means, and what that bill will mean for gifted programs in the state of Missouri.
3. The letter should include how this bill will impact them and gifted students across the state of Missouri. The letter should be addressed to the student's legislator and will be printed and delivered to the legislator after the contest.



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RESCHEDULED:

GAM Region 8 Presents:

Gifted Learners Mini-Symposium

Questions?

Please email

tbednarick@hazelwoodschoools.org.

Please join us for a learning and networking opportunity for teachers (and administrators) of gifted learners and those interested in learning more about meeting the needs of gifted learners.

* Sample Sessions:

Only \$25.00

March 8, 2019

12 noon to 4 pm

GALACTIC Learning Center

15955 New Halls Ferry Rd.

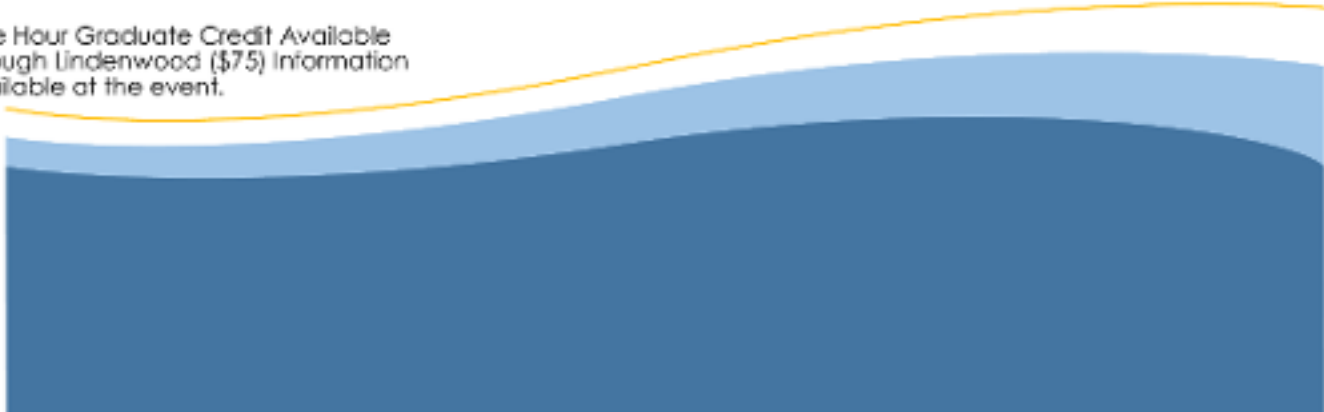
Florissant, MO 63031

REGISTER AT EVENTBRITE:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rescheduled-gifted-learning-mini-symposium-tickets-51984841059>

- *Level Up: Choosing Books for Advanced Readers*
(Presented by Heinemann Publishing)
- *Differentiating Through the Use of Inquiry*
(Presented by Heinemann Publishing)
- *Introduction to Mindfulness for the Classroom*
(Presented by Vicki Atlas-Israel, Best Mindset Coach)
- *Open Forums on Issues in Gifted Education*
(Acceleration, Alternative Identification)

One Hour Graduate Credit Available through Lindenwood (\$75) Information available at the event.





5 great Reasons to Pursue Gifted Certification at Truman State University

5. Get to work faster – with fully online and accelerated courses that can get you certified within a calendar year.
4. Save money with a total course price \$420 less than the normal graduate rate.
3. Benefit from the expertise of outstanding Truman faculty and practicing gifted educators.
2. Enjoy the quality you've come to expect from a Truman education.
1. Enhance your teaching of gifted and talented students.

Annually Scheduled Accelerated Courses – ALL ONLINE!

ED 550G – Introduction to Gifted and Talented (May 28–June 28, 2019)

ED 650G – Identification of Gifted (July 1–August 2, 2019)

ED 651G – Curriculum for Gifted (August 19–December 13, 2019)

ED 652G – Meeting Affective Needs of Gifted Children (May 28–June 28, 2019)

ED 653G – Programming, Planning, and Development: Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs (July 1–August 2, 2019)

Most of these courses are scheduled during the summer months for your convenience.

In addition to these courses, DESE requires "Psychology of the Exceptional Child" for gifted certification, as well as a research course, and an internship. Most teachers completed the Psychology course and a research course during their initial teaching certification, which typically meets these requirements. Truman also offers these courses if you need them. You can complete your internship through Truman at multiple points during the year.

Cost Courses are offered to Missouri K-12 teachers at a special rate of \$210 per credit hour.* That's a savings of \$420 over the normal Graduate rate!

*Online courses charge an additional \$30 fee to support technology costs.

For More Information

PHONE: 660-785-5384

EMAIL: institute@truman.edu

WEB: pd.truman.edu/gifted

TRUMAN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Register now! Start at pd.truman.edu/gifted

GAM Scholarships and Awards

Award Deadlines

May 1

VICKY BENNETT DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARD

Nicholas Green Scholarship Renamed Vicky Bennett Distinguished Student Award

During the January 2019 board meeting, the GAM board voted to rename the Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award to the Vicky Bennett Distinguished Student Award. Vicky was named the Outstanding Educator of Gifted in 2015 and was an active member of the board until her untimely passing in 2018. The scholarship will be presented to an outstanding gifted student in grades 3-6.

September 1

THE DEDE SMITH FRIEND OF GIFTED AWARD

The Vicky Bennett Distinguished Student Award is awarded to one student each year from Missouri. Recipients are given a \$250.00 scholarship along with a Certificate of Excellence by the Gifted Association of Missouri (GAM). Students selected for the award are between grades 3 and 6 and have distinguished themselves in academic achievement, leadership, and/or the arts. Nominations, application, and parental release form for the Missouri NGDS Award must be postmarked by May 1.

THE DELMA JOHNSON OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR OF GIFTED AWARD

THE NORINE KERBER PARENT OF GIFTED AWARD

The BOB ROACH SCHOLARSHIP FOR NEW TEACHERS

Sponsored by Drury University

Gifted Association of Missouri Executive Secretary
Vicky Bennett Distinguished Student Award
P.O. Box 3252
Springfield, MO 65808

Check out the Awards and Scholarship Page under Resources on www.mogam.org for more information.

Searching for ways to support academically talented students?



Duke TIP can help.

Our 4th–6th and 7th Grade Talent Searches help gifted students identify their strengths, explore their interests, and celebrate their achievements. There is no fee for schools to participate. Visit tip.duke.edu to learn more.

Duke
TIP

2019 Conference on Gifted Education



October 11-12, 2019
Ritenour High School

Confirmed Speakers

Dr. Donna Ford

Dr. Thomas Hébert

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Innovative Technology
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**Calls for
Proposals
coming
soon!**

Add Arts Integration to Your Teacher's Toolkit! Outstanding Professional Development Programs in St. Louis and Kansas City

(look for information on a Springfield area session coming soon)

Save the Date!

KC METRO ARTS INTEGRATION SYMPOSIUM

July 22–24, 2019

Kansas City Metro Area Location TBD

- Experience firsthand the power of using the arts in the classroom
- Sessions led by John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Teaching Artists

*For more info, visit kcmetroartsintegration.weebly.com.
Registration opens Spring 2019!*



Organized by the Kansas City Metro Arts Collaborative



2019 COCAedu Summer Institute for Arts Integration for Teachers



REGISTRATION OPENS
FEBRUARY 2019

Visit cocastl.org/cocaedu-summer-institute
to learn more.



The Missouri Alliance for Arts Education provides funding
for this important professional development each year.





Submit an Article to The GAMbit

The GAMbit is the official publication of the Gifted Association of Missouri.

Have something exciting to share about your gifted program? Submit an article to The GAMbit. Use the contact us link to start the article submission.

Advertising opportunities are also available.

GAM New Teacher Workshop

July 22-23, 2019
Drury University

The New Teacher workshop is a two day workshop for new teachers of gifted students.

Watch the GAM website under events for more information.

www.mogam.org
